

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Prior Group Art Unit: 1746
)
SHINICHI ITO ET AL.) Prior Examiner: M. Kornakov
)
Application No.: Unknown) Divisional Application of U.S. Patent
) Application Serial No. 10/396,407, filed
Filed: February 11, 2004) March 26, 2003, which is a divisional
) application of U.S. Patent Application
For: CHEMICAL LIQUID PROCESSING) Serial No. 09/784,200, filed February 16,
APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING) 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,579,382 B2
A SUBSTRATE AND THE) issued June 17, 2003)
METHOD THEREOF)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified divisional application.

Copies of the listed documents were previously cited by the Examiner or submitted in prior application U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/396,407, filed March 26, 2003, which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/784,200, filed February 16, 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,579,382 B2 issued June 17, 2003), upon which applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

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This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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Dated: _____

2/11/04

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	3180.0273-02	Appln. No.	Unknown
Applicant	Ito et al.		
Filing Date	February 11, 2004	Prior Group:	1746

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		6,579,382	6/2003	Ito			
		6,550,990	4/2003	Sakurai et al.			
		6,528,128 B2	3/4/03	Ito et al.			
		6,372,413	4/2002	Ema et al.			
		6,265,323 B1	7/2001	Nakamura et al.			
		6,006,763	12/1999	Mori et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		2000-147787	5/2000	Japan			
		11-329960	11/1999	Japan			
		11-307433	11/1999	Japan			
		11-260718	9/1999	Japan			
		357406	5/1999	Taiwan			
		10-172951	6/1998	Japan			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce